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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazuo TANAKA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1795

Application No.: 10/553,692

Examiner: M. WILLS

Filed: October 18, 2005

Docket No.: 125700

For: FUEL CELL-ATMOSPHERIC-PRESSURE TURBINE HYBRID SYSTEM

APPLICANTS' SEPARATE RECORD OF PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants' representatives conducted an interview in connection with the above-referenced matter with Examiner Wills on April 29, 2008. Applicants' representatives thank Examiner Wills for the courtesies extended to the representatives during the interview.

As agreed in the interview, the applied prior art (U.S. Patent No. 5,968,680 to Wolfe) fails to disclose "a compressor configured to compress the turbine exhaust gas discharged from the turbine to increase the pressure of the turbine exhaust gas to the atmospheric pressure and to discharge a compressor exhaust gas at the atmospheric pressure," as recited in claim 1.

In the interview, Applicants' representatives explained that Wolfe discloses a system in which the compressor does not take in the exhaust gas from the turbine. Specifically, Applicants' representatives pointed out that turbine 26 in Fig. 1 of Wolfe exhausts gas to the atmosphere, and that compressor 46 intakes air from the atmosphere rather than intaking exhaust from a turbine, as required in claims 1 and 9. Examiner Wills agreed that the feature

of gas discharge between the turbine and the compressor will overcome the rejection of record.

Examiner Wills further indicated that she would conduct a further prior art search relating to the discharge between the compressor and the turbine.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:HXT/amw

Date: May 6, 2008

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